

Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 4474

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UN KS KN

SUBJ: KOREA IN 28TH GA: CONSULTATIONS WITH WORKING GROUP

REF: (A) USUN 4473; (B) STATE 217446

1. SUMMARY. AS AGREED IN HIS NOONTIME CONVERSATION (REFTEL) WITH AMB PARK, AMB BENNETT DURING AFTERNOON NOV 5 CONTACTED PERMREPS OF UK(MAITLAND), THAILAND (ANAND), AUSTRALIA (MCINTYRE) AND JAPAN (SAITO), TO DISCUSS NEW TACTICS PER REFTEL B AND OUR INTENTION TO APPROACH CHINESE. SAITO PRESSED FOR DETAILS AND DID NOT DEMUR. ALL OTHERS APPROVED. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPT REPEAT THIS MESSAGE AND REFTELS TO OTHER WG POSTS, ESPECIALLY TOKYO, AND INSTRUCT APPROACH TO GAIMUCHO END SUMMARY.

2. IN EACH CASE BENNETT STRESSED THAT WE TAKING INITIATIVE IN RESPONSE PARTICULARLY TO ROK DESIRE. HE NOTED ALSO THAT SUCH INITIATIVE WOULD RESPOND TO INTEREST EXPRESSED BY SEVERAL OTHER WG MEMBERS AS WELL AS BY LARGE NUMBER OF CO-SPONSORS AND UNCOMMITTED UN MEMBERS. BENNETT EMPHASIZED NEED FOR CONFIDENTIALITY AT THIS STAGE, LEAVING OPEN QUESTION OF WHEN WE INFORM OTHER CO-SPONSORS.

3. UK AND AUSTRALIA PERMREPS REACTED VERY POSITIVELY, EXPRESSING FULL SATISFACTION. THAI APPROVED AFTER BENNETT REASSURED HIM THIS HAD BLESSING OF ROK.
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4. AMB SAITO QUESTIONED BENNETT MORE CLOSELY THAN OTHERS. HE TOLD BENNETT THAT HE HAD DECIDED NOT TO REPORT RESULTS OF NOV 2 STAFF-LEVEL WG MEETING PENDING FURTHER EXPLORATIONS HERE. THUS, SINCE US NOW (WITH UNEXPECTED

SWIFTNESS) WOULD BE BROACHING COMPROMISE WITH PRC RIGHT AWAY, HE WOULD NEED TO PROVIDE BACKGROUND TO TOKYO, WHICH, SAITO EXPLAINED, HAD TO BE BROUGHT ALONG WITH CARE ON SUCH MATTERS. SAITO, NOTING THAT FONMIN KIM HAD ONLY FEW DAYS AGO MADE STATEMENT SUPPORTING DUAL MEMBERSHIP, ASKED WHEN ROK HAD INFORMED US OF CHANGE IN ATTITUDE (WE TOLD SAITO THAT WE UNDERSTAND ROK STILL FAVORS DUAL ADMISSION AND THAT KIM HAD CONFIRMED WILLINGNESS TO DELETE PARA IN 28TH GA RES ONLY AFTER NOV 2 MEETING). SAITO ALSO ASKED WHETHER WE SAW DELETION OF MEMBERSHIP PARA AS PRELIMINARY TO COMPROMISE DRAFT, INTRODUCING AMENDED FRIENDLY RES, OR AMENDING HOSTILE RES (WE EXPLAINED THAT DROPPING MEMBERSHIP PARA WOULD STRENGTHEN POSITION TO PURSUE ANY ALTERNATIVE DEPENDING FIRST, HOWEVER, ON CHINESE RESPONSE). HE ASKED ABOUT OUR FOURTH OP PARA AND LANGUAGE ON UNC (WE REPLIED THIS WOULD DEPEND ALSO ON CHINESE RESPONSE).

5. BENNETT EXPLAINED THAT MIDDLE EAST CRISIS HAD UNDERSTANDABLY DELAYED USG CONSIDERATION OF CHANGE IN TACTICS AND THUS RESULTED IN SHORT TIME FOR CONSULTATIONS. HE ASSURED SAITO THAT WE WOULD KEEP HIM FULLY INFORMED OF RESULTS. BENNETT MADE SPECIAL POINT OF UNDERLINING TO SAITO THAT TACTICAL SHIFT SHOULD BE CLOSELY HELD FOR PRESENT.

6. COMMENT: (A) SAITO, BEFORE MEETING WITH BENNETT, AHD PRESSED HARD FOR TRILATERAL MEETING WITH AMB PARK. PARK SUCCESSFULLY AVOIDED SUCH MEETING WHICH HE DID NOT WANT (I) BECAUSE PARK WISHED FIRST TO CONSULT WITH FONMIN KIM AND (II) BECAUSE TRILATERAL WITH JAPANESE WOULD GO DOWN BADLY WITH OTHER WG MEMBERS WHO WOULD BE EXCLUDED. ALTHOUGH ROK MISSION VOLUNTEERED TO US LAST WEEK THAT RESOLUTION OF KIM TAE CHAUNG CASE HAD PUT ROK-JAPANESE RELATIONS ON HEALTHY FOOTING, ROK HERE ALSO TOLD US NOV 5 THAT JAPANESE FAILURE TO LOBBY IN CAPITALS CONSISTENTLY HARD FOR ROK HAS BEEN RESENTED AT LEAST BY ROK MISSION HERE. (B) SAITO
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APPARENTLY BELIEVES HE MAY HAVE SOME PROBLEMS IN EXPLAINING TO TOKYO, ALTHOUGH WE REMINDED HIM THAT GOJ AT EARLY STAGE WAS WG MEMBER MOST EXPLICIT IN ITS RESERVATIONS ON MEMBERSHIP PARA.

7. WE CONSIDER TODAY'S BILATERAL TALKS TO HAVE COVERED IMMEDIATE NEEDS FOR CONSULTATION, AND WE HAVE INFORMED AMB PARK AND OTHERS THAT IF THEY WISH AMBASSADORIAL-LEVEL OR STAFF-LEVEL WG MEETING NOV 6 WE OF COURSE WOULD BE PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE. (DECISION NOT TO HAVE WG MEETING NOV 5 GREW NATURALLY FROM PARK'S RELUCTANCE TO PROCEED IN MULTINATIONAL GROUP BEFORE CONSULTING WITH FONMIN KIM.) AMONG MATTERS WG MUST DECIDE IS WHEN WE SHOULD INFORM OTHER CO-SPONSORS OF CHANGE IN TACTICS.

8. ACTION REQUESTED: WE RECOMMEND DEPT REPEAT THIS MESSAGE
AND REFEELS TO TOKYO, AND PERHAPS ALSO TO OTHER WG POSTS.
IN TOKYO, WE BELIEVE APPROACH TO GAIMUSHO EXPLAINING
RATIONALE, PARTICULARLY SHORT TIME PERIOD FOR CONSULTATIONS
HERE, MIGHT BE HELPFUL.
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